

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 202112 TOSEC 210004

FOL RPT USBERLIN 1689 ACTION BONN SECSTATE INFO BERLIN LONDON
MOSCOW PARIS NATO 13 AUG QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1689

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, PINT, GE, GW, WB

SUBJ: POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF FRG-GDR TRANSIT AGREEMENT

1. AT 4:00 P.M. AUGUST 13 US ARMY HELMSTEDT CHECKPOINT COMMANDER
CONFIRMED INFORMATION RECEIVED EARLIER FROM SENAT THAT SOME
EIGHT BUSES AND THREE CARS CARRYING CDU JUNGE UNION
PARTICIPANTS IN AUGUST 13 WEST BERLIN EVENTS HAD BEEN
TURNED BACK BY EAST GERMAN BORDER OFFICIALS. GDR HAS SENT
TELEX TO FRG CLAIMING VIOLATION OF ARTICLE XVI(2) OF TRANSIT
AGREEMENT (SUSPECTED MISUSE OF TRANSIT RIGHTS) IN THAT
PROGAGANDA MATERIAL WAS FOUND IN COMPARTMENTS OF BUSES.
TRANSIT COMMISSIONERS HAVE BEEN CALLED INTO SESSION
ACCORDING TO SENAT. WHILE FACTS ARE SKETCHY AT THIS POINT,
PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO CROSSING POINTS OTHER THAN
HELMSTEDT, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT GDR HAS VIOLATED TRANSIT
AGREEMENT, PERHAPS GROSSLY, THAT VIOLATION WILL BE SUBJECT
OF CONSIDERABLE PRESS PLAY, AND THAT ALLIES MAY BE ASKED
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IN DUE COURSE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON VIOLATIONS.

FEDERAL AFFAIRS SENATOR STOBBE AND SENAT CHANCELLERY CHIEF HERZ LEFT MINISTER' LUNCHEON PRECIPITOUSLY UPON HEARING NEWS. HERZ TOLD US LIAISON OFFICER AUGUST 13 SENAT WOULD AWAIT FRG REACTION BEFORE ISSUING STATEMENT.

2. TRIPLE-PRONGED EASTERN PROTEST ACTIVITY AUGUST 12 (USBERLIN 1680 AND 1681) PRESAGED SUCH DIFFICULTIES. SOVIET PROTEST REFERRED TO COMPLICATIONS IN BERLIN AND "AREA AROUND IT." MITDANK PROTEST TO SENAT MENTIONED POSSIBLE WESTERN VIOLATIONS OF "AGREEMENT OBLIGATIONS" UNLESS WEST BERLIN AUTHORITIES TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO PROHIBIT THE PLANNED DEMONSTRATIONS IN WEST BERLIN. TRAVELERS TRANSITING AUTOBAHN DURING EARLY AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 13 REPORT UP TO TEN VOPOS IN EVERY PARKING PLACE AND LENGTHY QUESTIONING AT CHECKPOINTS ABOUT WHY TRAVELERS WERE GOING TO BERLIN.

3. EARLY DEMONSTRATIONS IN WEST BERLIN HAVE SO FAR COME OFF PEACEFULLY INCLUDING ITALIAN-LED MARCH OF 75 PERSONS AT CHECKPOINT CHARLIE. HOWEVER, THIS IS ONLY BEGINNING OF THREE DAYS OF SUCH ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBILITY OF HOT HEADS CREATING SOME TROUBLE CANNOT BE COMPLETELY EXCLUDED.

4. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE WE HAVE REVIEWED 1974 FEA CASE, LAST HIGHLY PUBLICIZED GDR VIOLATION OF TRANSIT AGREEMENT. VIOLATION. VIOLATION RESULTED IN THREE-POWER DEMARCHE IN MOSCOW (BONN 12214 OF AUGUST 2, 1974, ETC.). IF WE ARE ASKED BY PRESS ABOUT OUR REACTION TO TURNBACK OF BUSSES, WE WILL SAY THAT MATTER IS UNDER STUDY BY ALLIES TO KEEP OPEN OPTIONS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ALLIED ACTIONS. INCIDENTALLY, WE EXPECT TO ISSUE PROTEST EARLY AUGUST 14 AGAINST EAST GERMAN KAMPFGRUPPEN PARADE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD EVENING AUGUST 13 IN EAST BERLIN. GEORGE

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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